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Australia's unemployment rate decreased to 5.8 per cent in March 2014

Australia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points to 5.8 per cent in March, as announced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) today.

The seasonally adjusted labour force participation rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points to 64.7 per cent in March.

The ABS reported the number of people employed increased by 18,100 to 11,553,200 in March. The increase in employment was due to increased female and male part-time employment, up 40,200 people to 3,524,000, offset by decreased full-time employment, down 22,100 to 8,029,100.

The number of people unemployed decreased by 29,900 to 713,200 in March, the ABS reported.

The ABS monthly seasonally adjusted aggregate hours worked series increased in March, up 8.0 million hours to 1,617.2 million hours.

More details are in the March 2014 issue of *Labour Force*, *Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0), as well as the upcoming March 2014 issue of *Labour Force*, *Australia*, *Detailed* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) due for release next week on April 17. These publications are available for free download (after release) from the ABS website - www.abs.gov.au.

Media note:

When reporting ABS data, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (or ABS) must be attributed as the source.

Media request and interviews - contact the ABS Communications Section on 1300 175 070

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